Amendments in Indian Penal Code for Providing Deterrent Punishments in Rape Cases

6715. SHRI GOPALSINH G SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations/suggestions from jurists, lawyers, social scientists and women's organisations regarding the need for drastic amendments in the Indian Penal Code for providing deterrent punishments in rape cases especially rape of minor girl child;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) In connection with the media reports on violence, including rape, suggestions for amendment in the laws, including for stricter punishments for offences, have been made from time to time at different forums. The National Commission for Women (NCW) which is charged with the responsibility under the NCW Act, 1990, to review, from time to time, the adequacy of existing laws relating to women and to recommend amendments, had organised a Seminar on Child Rape in October, 1992. The members of the NCW, representatives from voluntary organisations, eminent lawyers and activists participated in the workshop.

The National Commission for Women has stated that the Commission has entrusted the examination of the report of the Seminar to a legal expert. As soon as the report is received, the Commission will consider the same and forward its final recommendations to the Government for necessary action.

Seizure of Smack

6716. SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any communication dated 4.12.92 was received from a Member of Parliament in reply to earlier communication acknowledged by the Minister;

(b) whether this communication refers to seizure of 1 kg of smack and 2 kg of charas on 8.4.1989 and report of the SDM sent on 5.10.92;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) action taken thereon against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. A communication dated 4.12.92 was received from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament with reference to his earlier communication dated 9.7.91 which was acknowledged by Union Home Minister on 13.7.91.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Hon'ble Member of Parliament had drawn attention to the non-payment of prize money to one Shri Surinder Kumar who was stated to have helped the Delhi Police in apprehending drug traffickers. An enquiry into the matter was got conducted by the Anti-Corruption Branch of the Directorate of Vigilance. The enquiries revealed that the information relating to clandestine activities of the dealers of drugs/narcotics did not emanate from Shri Surinder Kumar nor was his name recommended for the reward. The Hon'ble Member of Parliament was informed accordingly.